

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. SO 34584

CD NO.

COUNTRY Syria/Palestine

DATE DISTR.

SUBJECT Formation of Palestinian Regiments

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PLACE
ACQUIRED Syria, Damascus

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. 8-25 December 1949

**SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. 80-33037**

GRADING OF SOURCE						COLLECTOR'S PRELIMINARY GRADING OF CONTENT					
COMPLETELY RELIABLE	USUALLY RELIABLE	FAIRLY RELIABLE	NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	NOT RELIABLE	CANNOT BE JUDGED	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	PROBABLY TRUE	POSSIBLY TRUE	DOUBTFUL	PROBABLY FALSE	CANNOT BE JUDGED
A	B	C	D	E	F. X	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6. X

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Syrian with good contacts in the Arab Higher Executive.

1. Source states that Da'ud Husayni, cousin of Hajj Amin Husayni, former Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, is forming regiments of Palestinians who have volunteered to fight in "a sacred war against the Jews and against the Jordanian Army." According to source, Husayni came to Damascus prior to 25 December 1949 to accept volunteers from among the Arab refugees in Syria; and to make arrangements to transport these volunteers to Ramallah, Palestine. Source states that Da'ud Husayni asserts that he has 1,000 men prepared for action.
 2. According to source, while in Damascus Husayni also made arrangements for the delivery of the arms belonging to the Arab Higher Executive which have been stored in Damascus warehouses. The Damascus AHE office authorized the delivery of these arms to Husayni.
 3. Source states that Hajj Khalid Fawaj, private Secretary to the Grand Mufti, and Muhamed Salim Abu-Laban, finance officer of the AHE in Cairo, also came to Damascus to enroll volunteers from among the Arab refugees in Syria. These men, according to source, are offering IP 8 per month, as well as food and clothing, to volunteers.*
 4. Source also states that the Chairman of the AHE in Cairo received a letter (which source presumed was from the Mufti) directing him to turn over all AHE files which concerned the Palestine war to the AHE Committee in charge of registering volunteers.
- * Field Comment. Source of the above report also has reported the formation by Moslem groups of a committee which is to plan acts of terrorism. According to source, this committee, which, among other things, plans the assassination of persons standing in the way of a Moslem reactionary revival, includes the following persons:

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SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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Shedih 'Abdullah Qumshah - "AME delegate to Pakistan"
Mustafa Siba'i - "Udman al-Islamin delegate to the AME"
Ali Dabbagh - from Jaffa
Salim Abu-Laban
Hajj Khalid Faraj

As of 8 December 1949, source stated that Dabbagh, Abu-Laban, and Faraj were in Damascus, living at the home of Abu Ibrahim Saghir.

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